

A120 URGENT

MOSCOW COSMONAUT KILLED 18 APR 1968 000369R000200240092-7

MOSCOW TELEVISION AND RADIO IN A SIMULTANEOUS BROADCAST SAID THE COSMONAUT WAS KILLED DURING LANDING OF THE SPACECRAFT. THEY SAID ROPES OF THE PARACHUTE MEANT TO SOFTEN THE LANDING TWISTED AND IT HIT WITH GREAT FORCE.

THE DEATH OF KOMAROV RECALLED THE APOLLO SPACE CAPSULE FIRE AGROUND THAT KILLED THREE U.S. ASTRONAUTS AT CAPE KENNEDY JAN. 27 AND DELAYED THE AMERICAN PROGRAM OF PLACING A MAN ON THE MOON. IT WAS A MATTER OF SPECULATION WHETHER THE SOVIET ACCIDENT WOULD SIMILARLY DELAY RUSSIAN PLANS.

P937 AES

*198- Carr*

FBIS 35 (SEE 33)

MOSCOW TASS INTERNATIONAL SERVICE IN ENGLISH 1439Z 24 APR 67 L

(TEXT) THE CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE, THE PRESIDUM OF THE USSR SUPREME SOVIET, AND THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HAVE ANNOUNCED WITH GREAT SORROW THAT COLONEL-ENGINEER VLADIMIR KOMAROV, ONE OF THE FIRST SPACE EXPLORERS AND TALENTED TESTER OF SPACESHIPS, MEMBER OF THE CPSU, FLIER-COSMONAUT, AND HERO OF THE SOVIET UNION, PERISHED TRAGICALLY WHILE COMPLETING THE TEST FLIGHT OF SPACESHIP SOYUZ 1 TODAY. THE CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE, THE PRESIDUM OF THE USSR SUPREME SOVIET, AND THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HAVE EXPRESSED DEEP CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY OF THE DECEASED.

24 APR 1451Z JD/HM